

2024

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

2024

LOOKING BACK TO DECEMBER

December was, as usual, very busy. Our festive Jo Jingles Sing-a-long Day when the children met Santa in our Secret Grotto was also enjoyed by parents and staff.

The Jo Jingles programme facilitated by Mrs Doreen Laird reflects and reinforces the teaching/learning of the N.I. Pre-school Curriculum. We really appreciate the effort made by Doreen to make these sessions so much fun for our children.

The knitted Christmas decorations made £182. A big thank-you to Mrs Montgomery who knits for our Christmas display every year. The money raised was used to purchase Santa's gifts and Christmas resources for the children.

Our Christmas Jumper Day on 18th December raised £115 for N.I Cancer Fund for Children. Thank you to all our families.

MOVING FORWARD

JANUARY TOPICS AND EVENTS

This month's topics include;

- Winter
- Cold Country Play
- The Vets



Please take time to share the Curriculum News with your child and talk about what he/she is learning in nursery.

We will perform a few of January's rhymes and songs on Seesaw later in the month so you can join in with your child at home.

ECO-SCHOOLS

We have decided to apply for the prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag award. We have such a beautiful environment with a wide range of plant and insect life and we already place such an emphasis on caring for the environment at our nursery. Gareth Lamrock from Eco-Schools has assured us that we have most things in place to achieve our Green Flag before the end of the school year.

PARENT HELPERS

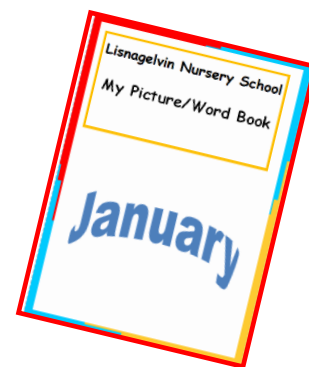
Welcome to join in with the maintenance of the Nursery Garden. Speak to Mrs Taggart/ Miss Devine

GETTING READY TO LEARN

As part of the Department of Education's initiative 'Getting Ready to Learn', we have already held a successful Big Bedtime Read in Term 1. Now in Term 2 we will launch our physical skills programme 'Happy Healthy Kids' – more details to follow shortly.

JANUARY LANGUAGE BOOK

During the month of January we will send home a Nursery Picture/Word Book based on our topics for the month of January. Sharing this Picture/Word Book with your child is an opportunity to spend quality time together while developing new vocabulary.



ILLNESS

There has been a lot of sickness among our children in Nov/Dec including common respiratory infections, vomiting and/or diarrhoea bugs and rashes/skin infections. We have also had a few cases of Scarlet Fever in nursery.

Scarlet fever, usually a mild illness, is caused by Group A strep and is a relatively common childhood illness. The symptoms of scarlet fever in the early stages can be non-specific and may include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours a characteristic red, generalised pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture.

Prompt treatment with appropriate antibiotics significantly reduces the risk of complications. So, we encourage parents who suspect their child has scarlet fever to seek medical advice from their GP.

Further information about scarlet fever is available on the PHA website: <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/scarlet-fever>

Please also remember if your child needs Calpol they are not well enough to be at school.

Thank you for continuing to keep your child at home if they are unwell. This helps to reduce the spread of infection to other children and staff.



PRIMARY 1 AND NURSERY ADMISSIONS FOR 2024 - 2025

If your child is starting **pre-school** or **primary school** in September 2024, you can apply for their place online from Tuesday 9th January. The closing date and time for pre-school and primary applications will be **12.00 noon on Friday 26th January 2024**. Further information is available on the Education Authority website under the Admissions Section at - <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>.

Once you have submitted your application online please ensure that you **upload** your child's long birth certificate and any other necessary documents by **4pm on Wednesday 31st January 2024**.

If anyone requires advice or assistance on how to fill in the form online please contact the office on (028)7134 2764 where Mrs Peoples or Mrs Killen our Secretaries will be happy to help or email us at lisnagelvin_nursery_school@eani.org.uk.

Parents/Guardians should note that if their child is seeking nursery provision for a 2nd year they MUST reapply.

Parents can also contact the Education Authority Admissions Helpdesk on (028) 9598 5595 or email preschooladmissions@eani.org.uk.

OPEN AFTERNOON

We hosted a very successful Open Afternoon on the 6th December 2023. Our staff were delighted to meet and have a chat with prospective parents and children.

Lisnagelvin Primary school are hosting an Open Morning next Thursday 11th January 24 for our nursery children. There are 2 times:

- Session 1: 9.30am – 10.15am
- Session 2: 11.00am – 11.45am

VIRTUAL TOUR

For prospective parents who were unable to attend our open afternoon there is now an updated virtual tour on our website. It showcases our beautiful nursery so well. We would like to thank Adam Montgomery whose wife Claire is one of our Parent Governors for filming and producing this video. Please follow the link below to view our virtual tour;

<https://youtu.be/NLyD22Eieo8>

Please share our virtual tour with your friends and family who may be due to start pre-school in September 2024.

It is available on our website;
www.lisnagelvinnursery.com

A shorter version is also posted on our Facebook page.



JANUARY RHYMES AND SONGS

Feed the Birds (song)

(to the tune of Row, Row, Row the Boat)

Feed, feed, feed the birds

In the Wintertime

When it's cold and dark outside

Food is hard to find



A Chubby Little Snowman

A chubby little snowman had a carrot nose

Along came a bunny and what do you suppose

That hungry little bunny looking for some lunch

Ate the snowman's carrot nose

Nibble, nibble, crunch

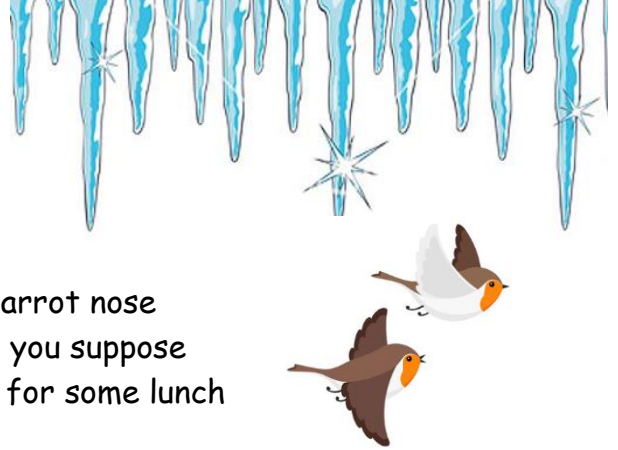
Little Jackie Jack Frost

Little Jackie Jack Frost he bites my nose

Little Jackie Jack Frost he stings my toes

When the Winter wind begins to blow

Little Jackie Frost away he goes



10 Little Robins

(to the tune of Ten Little Indians)

One little, two little,

three little robins

Four little, five little,

six little robins

Seven little, eight little,

nine little robins

Ten little robins

Fly in the Winter sky

5 Five Little Snowmen

Five little snowmen in a row

Five little snowmen made of snow

Out came the sun and shone all day

One little snowman melted away



Sammy Square Rhyme

Sammy Square is my name

My four sides are just the same

Turn me around, I don't care

I'm always the same

I'm Sammy Square



I'm a Penguin

I look cute in my little dinner suit

I look nice as I waddle on the ice

I can't fly and I wouldn't even try

I'm a penguin, that's why, that's why

That's why!



Funny Little Snowman

Funny little snowman

Much too cold to cuddle

Out comes the sun

And now you're just a puddle

Drip, drip, drip, drip, drip, splash!

Prevent scalds and drowning

January

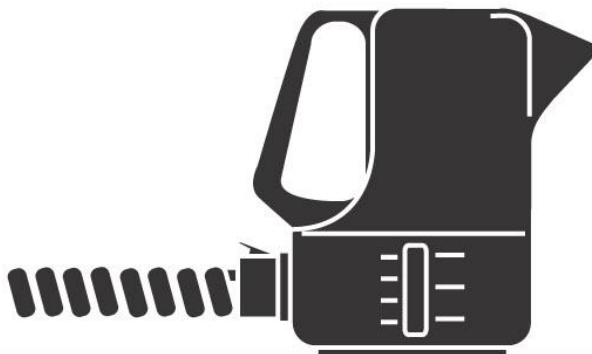
Child safety tips



Fill the bath with cold water first and then add warm water



15 minutes after being poured, a hot drink can still scald a child

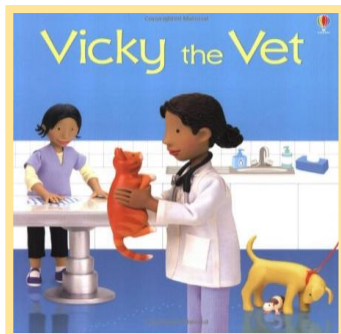
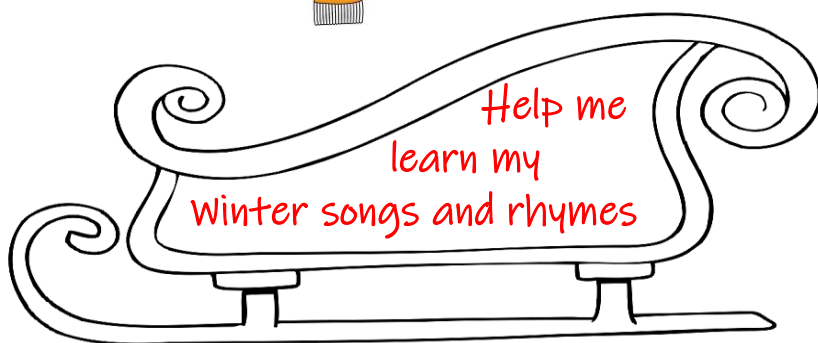


Have short flexes on kettles and place them at the back of work tops

Curriculum News:

Winter

We are talking about **Winter** and going for winter walks. When it is very cold we will talk about ice, frost, and walking carefully on slippery surfaces. We will also talk about the clothes we wear to keep us warm in Winter.



Vet Play

We will read a story called 'Vicky the Vet'. We will bring our cuddly toy pets from the home corner to the vets when they are feeling poorly. Encourage me to play "vets" at home and to use words like bandage, medicine, stethoscope and thermometer.



Respecting Difference

We will meet 2 more puppets. Bukola's story will help us learn to ask an adult for help if someone is upsetting us.

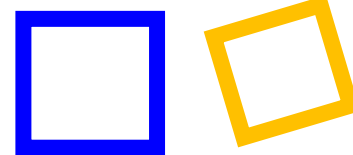
We all need to feel safe!



Bukola



Jim



Shape: Square

Look out for squares in your home, in your garden or when you are out and about. How many sides?



Concepts: Hot and Cold

We will explore this concept by playing with ice in the water tray and melting it with warm water.

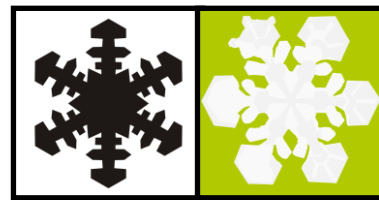
We will also talk about warm and cold hands and drink hot chocolate on a cold January morning to warm ourselves up.



Colours

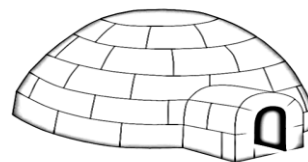
Black

White



Cold Countries

We will also be learning about cold countries. You can talk to me about igloos, penguins and polar bears.



Talk to me about the animals trapped in the ice blocks at the water tray.